

CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMISSION MEETING
Monday, March 5, 2012
The Center of Clayton – Multipurpose Room C

The following members were present:

Ira Berkowitz	Andrea Maddox -Dallas
Brad Bernstein	Omri Praiss
Mimi Deem	Eric Schneider
Rosemary Hardy	Melanie Tamsky
Michelle Harris	

Excused/Absent:

Marguerite Garrick
Laurel Herrington

Also Present:

Patty DeForrest

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the February meeting were approved as written.

Shaw Park Ice Rink – Background: Ms. DeForrest told the Commission that Mr. Mike Pratl from Jacobs architecture firm will attend the April meeting to explain the Ice Rink options.

Director's Report: The City received approval from FEMA for the dog park, but is still waiting for approval from MSD. Ms. DeForrest will provide a dog park business plan to the Parks and Recreation Commission before submitting a proposal to the BOA. The next steps are to begin fundraising, conduct a direct mailing explaining the dog park plan to residents who reside in the Haddington Court neighborhood and then begin the project.

Ms. DeForrest stated that she attended the Missouri Parks and Recreation Association (MRPA) Conference the week of February 27. Mr. Howard Sher received the volunteer coach award and Mayor Goldstein received the public official award for her involvement with parks and recreation initiatives. Mayor Goldstein and Mr. Owens were able to attend the awards banquet in Lake of the Ozarks. Ms. DeForrest noted that she attended some good educational sessions. The session about the Trail Alliance will be very applicable to the trail website, which will be developed over the next eighteen months. MPRA is working on a Did You Know Campaign that will highlight health and wellness facts related to parks and recreation. The campaign will be rolled out in Clayton this July, in conjunction with National Park and Recreation month.

The Parks and Recreation Department is working on getting its national accreditation through the National Recreation and Parks Association. Being a nationally accredited department will help with receiving grants and awards.

Parks staff is in the process of preparing the parks and fields for the summer season. Public session revenue increased by 29% at the Ice Rink and there was a 17% increase in attendance during these sessions.

The BOA approved a list of CCF fundraising projects. One project includes enhancements at the northeast corner of Shaw Park. A meeting will be held with a design firm to discuss plans for the site, which will be presented to the potential donor. Additional art and Center of Clayton improvements are also on the list of CCF projects.

The Hanley Park Pavilion project is going well. The pavilion is expected to be completed by the end of March. A dedication ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 28. The bid for tuckpointing the Hanley House was awarded and will begin this week. The project should take six to seven weeks to complete.

The City is waiting on approval from MSD for the Tennis Center project. Upon receiving approval, bid documents will be reviewed. There is the possibility of not renovating tennis court #10. The City is also looking into fence options and installing LED lights. Ms. DeForrest is anticipating that the project will begin in May and be completed by August. While the time frame is not ideal, the project must move forward because the courts need to be renovated.

Ms. DeForrest told the Commission that four architectural firms will be interviewed for the Shaw Park Pavilion design. Interviews will begin on Friday, March 9, and all the firms are located in St. Louis. Once the decision is narrowed down and there is a design; the design charrette will be presented the Commission.

The final layout for the Shaw Park Trail is marked with stakes in the park. A planting landscape plan will be put together and art for the garden will be selected. The trail project is scheduled to begin in July.

The Oak Knoll parking lot will be resurfaced this summer. Interpretative playground signage is ready to be installed. The City had some discussions about the building at Oak Knoll Park, but no decisions have been made about future usage of the building.

Old Business / New Business: The property at Haddington Court is still being maintained by the Public Works Department. The dog park will be two acres and have two sections; one for small dogs and one for large dogs. After the dog park is built, the Parks and Recreation Department will begin maintaining the park.

In regards to the Ice Rink project, Ms. DeForrest noted that the timeline will move quickly once a design is selected. There are funders waiting to see a design.

There was a brief discussion about Clayton Greyhound Athletic programs. Ms. DeForrest informed the Commission that basketball and baseball league participation in sixth through eighth grade have been affected by the program; however participation in lower grades has remained steady. The greatest impact is on City fields and facilities. The addition of new programs results in limited use of facilities causes issues for recreational leagues and adds additional wear and tear on these facilities.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted By:

Denise Ucinski